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DIARY NOTES

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DD/S

20 April 1961

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1. [REDACTED] telephoned to say that according to [REDACTED] Ed Morrow 25X1A9A of USIA had recently handed the Director a paper having to do with activities of interest to both CIA and USIA which were targeted on Latin America. A memorandum has been passed to the Covert Action Staff. Apparently, Dave Bell, Director of the Budget, also participated in the brief discussion with the Director and Ed Morrow. He has therefore asked Bob Macy and Frank Ecker to look into the situation and see what we are doing. They have asked for a briefing which the Covert Action Staff thinks would be premature. I told Chuck to defer any further action until I could consult with the Director and determine his wishes.

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2. [REDACTED] also requested that [REDACTED] participate in the consultations with the IO Division in the joint study which the Bureau of the Budget wants to make of certain of their activities. I told him that I was awaiting word from Dick Bissell as to the DD/P nominee and that it was certainly my intention that the Comptroller have a representative.

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3. [REDACTED] were in to discuss with me briefly the status of plans for new construction [REDACTED] and the estimated cost thereof. According to present estimates we can have the fallout-proof shelter and everything else for which we had planned for \$134,000 more than the original estimate. Inasmuch as we had provided for an over-all contingency of \$400,000 I told them to go ahead with these plans. I also told them that it was practically certain that we could find the \$160,000 to award the remainder of the A&E contract by 1 May and that they should plan accordingly. This will speed up our over-all program by several months.

4. At Stan Grogan's request I telephoned Joseph Young of the Evening Star to discuss with him our retirement policy. I explained to him that we were encouraging, and in fact, urging our personnel to retire when they were eligible with a full annuity unless they possessed unusual skills or talents and were asked to remain longer. I explained that we had appointed a board to counsel employees approaching eligibility, and in each case the personal references, circumstances, etc., of the individual were always considered. I emphasized that we were striving to reach some mutually acceptable arrangement with each individual without ^{resulting} resulting to arbitrary or legalistic procedures, admitting, of course, that there were a number of people who were reluctant to do this. I told Mr. Young that to date we had not taken any adverse action against an individual who declined. Mr. Young was very friendly, seemed to be well-satisfied with the information which I gave him, and volunteered that he thought it was probably a good idea in principle, specifically for this Agency which he could understand might have a greater need for youth and vitality than the normal Government agency. He also volunteered that he had been ^{prompted} prompted to get in touch with us as a result of a complaint made by the wife of one of our employees affected by this policy.

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9. Bob Amory telephoned to say that he was going to turn back to the Comptroller an additional \$259,000 of Fiscal Year-1961 money which he found was surplus to his needs. He also wanted assurance that he could put up \$15,000 of his own money to buy furniture for conference rooms in the new building. He understood that the Office of Logistics did not have these funds. He assured me that this was equipment which could be bought off the standard list. I told him I certainly had no objection if this were the case.

10. Emmett Echols advised that the White House has requested another clerk-stenographer on a sixty-day nonreimbursable detail. This makes three now on duty at the White House.

11. Emmett sent a copy of the Civil Service Commission's proposed new grievance procedure and reports that as drafted it would apply to us and that we could not live with it. In fact, it would require an outside review of all cases terminated under the Director's special authorities. Emmett reports that Larry Houston is drafting a report to the Commission requesting that we be exempt from this proposed Executive Order.

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Note: An extract of paragraph 4. was sent to Colonel Grogan, Assistant to the Director, on 25 April 1961. (DD/S-61-1316)

An extract of paragraph 9. was sent to the Comptroller and Director of Logistics on 25 April 1961. (DD/S-61-1317)

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